

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 6 and 17 have been canceled. Claims 1 – 5, 7 – 16, and 18 – 21 remain pending in the application. The claim amendments and the following arguments have been provided to impart precision on the claims, and more particularly point out the invention, rather than avoid prior art.

RESPONSE TO § 102 REJECTIONS

In the Office Action mailed September 28, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1 - 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,671,808 to Abbott et al. (hereinafter, “Abbott”). To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim. “A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Independent claims 1 and 11, as amended, are not anticipated by Abbott, because Abbott does not disclose each and every limitation of claims 1 and 11.

Applicant submits that claim 1, as amended, is not anticipated by Abbott. Claim 1, as amended, states:

1. A device for allowing secure identification of an individual when accessing information comprising:

a serial bus port;

a controller coupled to the serial bus port; and

a storage medium coupled to the controller, wherein the storage medium includes security information which can be accessed by the controller, and said security information includes a unique identification, embedded into the device, to identify the device.

(Claim 1, as amended). For example, Applicants’ specification states that the device “has a unique ID embedded in an integrated circuit inside the device.” (Applicants’ abstract).

Accordingly, this allows the device to be associated with the user's information. For example, a centralized data collection point (e.g., the secure key hub) may maintain a record indicating a device has an association with a particular user. The information (e.g., device ID and user password) at the centralized data collection point may be compared with the information on the device.

Abbott discloses a "personal key" with memory to store a user's personal information, such as digital certificates, passwords, and Internet cookies. For example, a user may load his personal information into the device's memory. However, the device disclosed by Abbott does not disclose or suggest a unique ID to identify the device embedded in the device. In particular, Abbott does not disclose or suggest a device with a unique identification, embedded into the device, to identify the device, as is claimed in claim 1.

In the Office Action mailed September 28, 2005, the Examiner states that Abbott discloses the above-referenced limitation. In particular, the Examiner cited lines 26 to 39 of column 3, lines 50 to 60 of column 6, lines 38 to 59 of column 7, and lines 7 to 20 of column 8. However, after a careful review of these passages, Applicants submit that none of the passages disclose or suggest that the device of Abbott includes a unique identification to identify the device itself. Instead, Abbott states:

The personal key provides for the storage and management of digital certificates, allowing the user to store all of his digital certificates in one media that is portable from platform to platform. The personal key provides for the generation, storage, and management of many passwords, providing additional security and relieving the user from the task of remembering multiple passwords.

(Col. 3, Lines 31 – 48). Accordingly, the data stored in the device of Abbott is added by the user, and does not include an embedded identification, as is claimed in Applicants' claim 1.

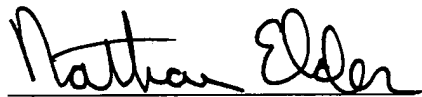
As Abbott does not disclose each and every limitation of claim 1, Abbott does not anticipate claim 1. For the same reasons, claims 2 – 5, 7 – 17 and 18 – 21 are not anticipated by Abbott.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been addressed and that the application is now in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the application.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2638 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such an extension.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan Elder", written over a horizontal line.

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